

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**LISTING OF CLAIMS:**

1. (Original) A cosmetic composition that mimics sebum, comprising at least one lipophilic fraction in turn comprising at least::  
from 5% to 20% of squalene,  
from 50% to 70% of a mixture of triglycerides of linear fatty acids having a chain of 12 to 22 carbon atoms and of linear fatty acids having a chain of 12 to 22 carbon atoms,  
from 15% to 25% of esters of linear fatty acids and of linear fatty alcohols having chains of 12 to 22 carbon atoms,  
from 0.5% to 3% of esters of cholesterol whose acid fraction comprises a chain of 12 to 22 carbon atoms, and  
from 0% to 5% of cholesterol,  
it being understood that the ratio of unsaturated fatty chains to saturated fatty chains lies between 10 and 0.1.

2. (Currently Amended) The composition as claimed in the ~~preceding claim, claim 1, characterized in that~~ which the squalene is in a quantity representing from 12% to 18% of the lipophilic fraction.

3. (Currently Amended) The composition as claimed in ~~either one of claims 1 and 2, claim 1, characterized in that wherein~~ the mixture of triglycerides of linear fatty acids having a chain of 12 to 22 carbon atoms and of linear fatty acids having a chain of 12 to 22 carbon atoms are in a quantity representing from 56% to 64% of the lipophilic fraction.

4. (Currently Amended) The composition as claimed in ~~any one of claims 1 to 3, claim 1, characterized in that wherein~~ the esters of linear fatty acids and of linear fatty alcohols having chains of 12 to 22 carbon atoms are in a quantity representing from 19% to 22% of the lipophilic fraction.

5. (Currently Amended) The composition as claimed in ~~any one of claims 1 to 4, claim 1, characterized in that wherein~~ the esters of cholesterol whose acid fraction comprises a chain of 12 to 22 carbon atoms are in a quantity representing from 0% to 1.5% of the lipophilic fraction.

6. (Currently Amended) The composition as claimed in ~~any one of claims 1 to 5, claim 1, characterized in that wherein~~ the cholesterol is in quantity representing from 1% to 3% of the lipophilic fraction.

7. (Currently Amended) The composition as claimed in ~~any one of claims 1 to 6, claim 1, characterized in that wherein~~ the ratio of unsaturated fatty chains to saturated fatty chains is between 5% to 0.2.

8. (Currently Amended) A cosmetic composition that mimics sebum, ~~characterized in that it~~ which comprises at least from 12% to 18% of squalene, from 0% to 10% of trimyristin, from 0% to 10% of trimyristolein, from 0% to 10% of tripalmitin, from 0% to 10% of tripalmitolein, from 0% to 20% of triolein, from 0% to 60% of glycerol, from 0% to 10% of tristearin, from 0% to 15% of oleic acid, from 0% to 10% of palmitic acid, from 0% to 15% of palmitoleic acid, from 0% to 10% of myristic acid, from 0% to 10% of myristoleic acid, from 5% to 20% of myristyl oleate, from 5% to 10% of palmityl oleate, from 0.5% to 3% of cholesteryl palmitate and from 0% to 5% of cholesterol, it being understood that the sum of the percentages of the free fatty acid fractions added to the sum of the percentages of the triglyceride fractions will be between 55% and 65% and that the ratio of unsaturated fatty chains to saturated fatty chains is between 8 and 0.2.

9. (Currently Amended) A cosmetic composition that mimics sebum, ~~characterized in that it~~ which comprises at least 16% of squalene, 8% of tripalmitin, 18% of tripalmitolein, 12% of triolein, 10% of oleic acid, 7% of palmitoleic acid, 5% of myristoleic acid, 10% of myristyl oleate, 10% of palmityl oleate, 1% of cholesteryl oleate and 3% of cholesterol.

10. (Currently Amended) The cosmetic composition that mimics sebum as claimed in ~~any one of claims 1 to 9,~~ claim 1, ~~characterized in that it~~ which also comprises vitamin E at a concentration of between 0.0025% and 0.01% and preferably between 0.001% and 0.1%.

11. (Currently Amended) A method of preparing a cosmetic composition as described in ~~any one of claims 1 to 10,~~ claim 1, comprising a first step of weighing each of the ingredients included in the composition in a sterile receptacle, opaque to the light, previously coated with a non-stick coating, a second step of replacing the air with an inert gas, a third step of raising the temperature to a temperature between 50°C and 100°C, ~~preferably 80°C,~~ and a fourth step of maintaining the temperature for a time of between 25 and 45 minutes, ~~preferably 30 and 40 minutes,~~ with stirring.

12. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 11, the inert gas being chosen from argon, nitrogen, neon, krypton or xenon.

13. (Currently Amended) The method as claimed in ~~the preceding claim,~~  
claim 12, characterized in that wherein the inert gas is argon.

14. (Currently Amended) The cosmetic composition ~~as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 10, liable to be obtained by the method of any one of claims 11 to 13~~  
claim 11.

15. (Currently Amended) ~~The use of a composition as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 10 and 14~~ A method to alleviate the unsightly vexations linked to a deficiency of sebum comprising using the composition according to claim 1.

16. (Currently Amended) ~~The use as claimed in the preceding claim~~ A method for treating dry skin comprising using the composition according to claim 1.

17. (Currently Amended) ~~The use of a composition as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 10 and 14~~ A method to control the lateral diffusion of cosmetic active agents or formulations comprising using the composition according to claim 1.

18. (Currently Amended) The use method as claimed in ~~the preceding claim 17,~~ characterized in that wherein the composition is applied prior to the application of the cosmetic active agents or formulations.

19. (Currently Amended) ~~The use of a composition as described in any one of claims 1 to 10 and 14~~ A method for the preparation of a skin equivalent comprising a sebum equivalent comprising using the composition according to claim 1.

20. (Original) A skin equivalent comprising a sebum equivalent.
21. (Currently Amended) The skin equivalent as claimed in the preceding claim 20, ~~characterized in that wherein~~ the sebum equivalent is a cosmetic composition ~~as described in any one of claims 1 to 10 and 14.~~
22. (Currently Amended) ~~The use of a skin equivalent comprising a sebum equivalent~~ A method to study the interactions between the sebum, the epidermis and/or the dermis, particularly in cutaneous homeostasis comprising using the composition according to claim 1.
23. (Currently Amended) ~~The use of a skin equivalent comprising a sebum equivalent~~ A method to study the interactions between the cutaneous tissue, particularly the epidermis and/or the dermis, and the sebum after modification of the latter by different exogenous and/or endogenous environmental factors comprising using the composition according to claim 1.
24. (Currently Amended) ~~The use of a skin equivalent comprising a sebum equivalent~~ A method to evaluate the effectiveness, the penetration or the toxicity of starting materials and of cosmetic formulations comprising using the composition according to claim 1.
25. (Currently Amended) ~~The use of a skin equivalent comprising a sebum equivalent~~ A method to study comedogenesis in the presence or absence of cosmetic active agents or formulations comprising using the composition according to claim 1.

26. (Currently Amended) A method of preparing a dispersion of the cosmetic composition of the invention comprising a step of dispersing the composition as prepared according to the invention and its maintenance at a temperature between 50°C and 100°C, ~~preferably 80°C~~, in a liquid physiological medium.

27. (Currently Amended) The method as claimed in claim 26, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the liquid physiological medium is chosen from sweat, physiological saline, or alternatively a cell culture medium.

28. (Currently Amended) The method as claimed in ~~either one of claims 2 6 and 27~~, claim 2, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the desired quantities of artificial sebum and of liquid physiological medium are such that the application of 2 µl of the dispersion provides the skin with the necessary physiological quantity, that is 100 µg of sebum.